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IN THE CLAIMS

Amendments to the Claims

A Listing of Claims is provided as follows and will replace any previous listing.
No new matter has been added.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for purifying a target protein from a protein solution containing the target protein by using liquid chromatography, wherein the target protein is glucose dehydrogenase derived from a microorganism belonging to the genus Burkholderia and has α , β , γ subunits, the liquid chromatography ~~comprises~~ comprising:
a first step of introducing the protein solution into a column filled with a packing agent, ~~and causing the packing agent to hold~~ holding the target protein, the packing agent being an ion-exchange resin containing a quaternary ammonium group as an ion-exchange group; and
a second step of eluting the target protein by using an eluent containing a hydroxy-cholate.
- 2-5. (Canceled)
6. (Currently Amended) The method for purifying protein according to Claim [[3]] 1, wherein the β subunit of the glucose dehydrogenase provides electron transfer protein activity and has a ~~molecule~~ molecular weight of approximately 43 kDa in SDS-gel electrophoresis under a reducing environment, and
the α subunit of the glucose dehydrogenase provides the protein which has glucose dehydrogenation activity and has ~~having a molecule~~ molecular weight of approximately 60 kDa in SDS-gel electrophoresis under a reducing environment.
7. (Currently Amended) The method for purifying protein according to Claim 1, wherein the hydroxy-cholate comprises a sodium cholate.

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8. (Currently Amended) The method for purifying protein according to Claim 1, wherein the hydroxy-cholate in the eluent is maintained at a constant concentration ~~[[in]]~~ during the elution of the target protein from the packing agent.

9. (Original) The method for purifying protein according to Claim 8, wherein the concentration of the hydroxy-cholate in the eluent is selected from a range of 0.5 through 2.5 wt%.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) The method for purifying protein according to Claim ~~[[10]]~~ 1, wherein the microorganism ~~belonging to the genus Burkholderia~~ is ~~provided by~~ Burkholderia cepacia KS1 strain (FERM BP-7306).

12. (Currently Amended) The method for purifying protein according to Claim 3, wherein the glucose dehydrogenase is produced by a transformant,
the transformant being produced by engineering a host microorganism with ~~[[a]]~~ DNA from a microorganism belonging to the genus Burkholderia ~~for encoding the electron transfer protein and the protein active against glucose~~ encoding the α and β subunits.

13. (Currently Amended) The method for purifying protein according to Claim 12, wherein the host microorganism is ~~provided by~~ Pseudomonas putida.

14. (Currently Amended) The method for purifying protein according to Claim 12, wherein the host microorganism is ~~provided by~~ E. coli bacterium.

15-23. (Canceled)

24. (New) The method for purifying protein according to Claim 1, wherein the α and γ subunits of the glucose dehydrogenase provide glucose dehydrogenation activity and the

γ subunit has a molecular weight of approximately 14 kDa in SDS-gel electrophoresis under a reducing environment.

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